Sackville Downs has most satisfying year

Sackville Downs general manager Jack Cruickshank summed up the 1963 racing season at his race plant with the thought that "it was a season with its problems but one which gives perhaps even more satisfaction than the previous smooth running season." Cruickshank's reference to problems pertained to the virus which hit a great percentage of race horses in North America last spring. Sackville Downs, like most plants in the Maritimes, did not hit full stride until late in the season. At this point pari-mutuel wagering figures were well behind the former season average. However, a good fall season of racing, which showed an increase in both wagering and attendance over the same time period the previous season, made the overall season's picture much brighter and generated enthusiasm which will carry into the 1964 season.

The year's second fastest mile in the Maritimes was raced at Sackville Downs on October 19. Donnie McKenzie's speedy five-year-old Bob Brook did the twice around in 2.04.1-5. This was a full second off Dee's Boy's track record of 2.03.1-5 set in 1962.

GREAT MILES

An impressive statistic for Sackville Downs is the 115 miles raced in 2.10 or better. The first came on June 8th. with Bob Brooks 2.09.2-5 performance and the final came on November 6th. when for the second time this season the sensational two-year-old Eloise Wick raced in 2.09 and 2-5. She had previously accomplished this feat at Sackville on October 8th. This time by the Greenbrier Farm's filly was a new Maritime record and equalled the record for a two-year-old of either sex.

Of the "under 2.10 performers" Danny Meyer's seven-year-old Watch Top and C.D. Pugsley's King Clegg, both Maritime bred, performed the trick most often. Both raced better than 2.10 on seven occasions Watch Top's best performance of the year came on October 5th. when Art Porter drove him in 2.05.3-5 for a new lifetime mark.

The most consistent "under 2.10" driver was Kenny Kaye. He piloted 14 horses in the quick time. Kaye handles King Clegg who can take credit for seven of these. Rufin Barrieau and Elmer Smith each drove ten horses who raced 2.10 or better.

New Brunswick's Rufin Barrieau took top driving honors at Sackville Downs this season with a .471 driving percentage. The 1962 driving champion Telesphore Collette finished in fifth place this year with a .372 mark.

Here are Sackville Downs's TOP TEN drivers for 1963:

10 LEADING DRIVERS

	Starts	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	PT.	PC.
Rufin Barrieau	78	25	11	17	331	471
Elmer Smith	129	30	30	20	490	413
Jas. MacGregor	122	32	15	22	429	390
Jas. Given	74	17	15	9	255	382
Telesphore Collette ...	126	28	22	20	422	372
Earl Butler	168	34	30	23	525	347
Kenny Kaye	178	38	29	25	562	344
Clarke Smith	134	21	30	16	387	320
Joe Smallwood	177	31	22	31	497	310
Winston Campbell ...	168	29	22	24	433	296

Most Drives: Scott Daniels—197
Most Wins: Kenny Kaye—38

Referring back to the past season once again, Sackville Downs has had major racing events since it's opening in 1955.

The biggest annual attraction is the B.C. Cruickshank Memorial race held each year in the latter part of August. Here the Maritime's best meet for a coveted trophy and the big prize money that goes with it. The event this season had to be postponed from its scheduled August 24th. date to Monday August 26th. A postponement always causes a drop in interest. The fans did not turn out in as large a number as in previous years but the race was good. Bob Brook was the overall winner with a 2.06.1-5 clocking in the first heat. Edgewood Hedrick took the second heat in 2.06.2-5. On the subject of major events a big disappointment for Sackville Down's management this season was the failure to be able to organize a Nova Scotia Invitational Pace. This event raced in 1962 drew horses from Montreal to meet the Maritimes best. Nine thousand people had packed Sackville Downs to witness the race on October 8th. The track worked two months on organizing the event for 1963 but various last minute problems arose making the event an impossibility for this year. However, the track has been assured the race will be staged in 1964. Preparations have already begun in this direction and the assurance of outside racing talent to compete assures that the event will be held.

Sackville Downs has a great number of changes set for the 1964 season. All are in the planning and developing stages at this writing. Sackville Down's mutuel records will be shattered during the centennial year. Elaborate preparations are being made and race fans should see the greatest array of speed ever to come to Prince Edward Island.

Here is a list of times made:
Miles in 2.04—1
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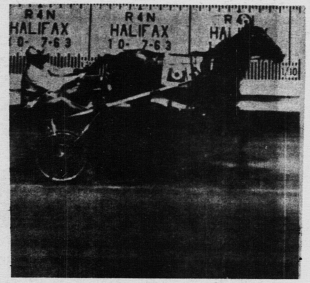
Miles in 2.05-205:4—3
Miles in 2.06-206:4—4
Miles in 2.07-2.07:4—9
Miles in 2.08-2.08:4—10
Miles in 2.09-2.09:4—39
Miles in 2.10-2.10:4—59
Miles in 2.11-2.11:4—67
Miles in 2.12-2.12:4—64
Miles in 2.13-2.13:4—68
Miles in 2.14.14-2.14:4—46
Miles in 2.15-2.14:4—32
Miles in 2.16-2.16:4—18
Miles in 2.17-2.17:4—17
Miles in 2.18-2.10:4—8
Miles in 2.19 or slower—9.

JEWS SPELL WORDERS

LONDON (Reuters) — More than 2,500 members of the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen served meals, scrubbed floors and did various jobs in 80 hospitals in Britain during the Christmas holiday period Wednesday an Thursday. They included lawyers, market workers, factory workers and storekeepers.



Eloise Wick, 2:09 3/5 2—B. F. by Gene Abbe. Dam Candy Frisco — owned by Greenbrier Farms. The Maritimes Fastest Pacing Filly in History — Winner of 13 Dashes — in 24 starts — Thought to be a record in U. S. T. A. for a 2-year-old filly.

to all horsemen
... and to
all fans of
harness racing
... BEST
WISHES
for
1964
G. & G.
DAIRY
Charlottetown
George Gregory

BEST WISHES TO ALL
MARITIME HORSEMEN..
CHARLOTTETOWN
PETROLEUM
PRODUCTS
Charlottetown P. E. I.
DIAL 4-7311 — 4-7312

CH'TOWN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

local speedway. It would seem that drivers are endeavouring to use more care in the handling of their pacers and trotters than ever before.

FAST GOING

In the 1963 campaign there were 66 miles in 2.10 or better and 370 miles lower than 2.15. The secretary's office had 370 elegibility papers to handle and from these 348 horses were classified 310 Island owned horses faced the starter and 38 mainland horses raced over the Charlottetown track. Throughout the season 102 drivers registered and raced here.

Clark Smith once again emerged as the top drivers during Old Home Week, beating out runnerup Joe Hennessey on the final night of the ten-card show. As a result Clark won The British Consols trophy and a money award.

However, Joe wasn't to be denied in the season's showing at CDP. Joe finished in front in the battle for Ed Taxi's trophy which goes to the track's leading driver. The presentation of this trophy will be made during The Evening Patriot Gold Cup and Saucer night this coming winter.

Fall and winter racing is now in progress at Charlottetown oval and horsemen and fans are having a fine time for themselves. Races are going each Saturday afternoon and special progrms are arranged for Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

All connected with the Charlottetown plant are optimistic about 1964 doings. They are convinced that all attendances and management have a busy winter ahead but they know that this is necessary to ensure a coming successful season. A quick scan of new horse talent arriving into the Maritimes already puts track officials in a highly optimistic mood for the 1964 racing season.

Good Luck
To
all
MARITIME
HORSEMEN
... may times be
better and faster
than ever!
GODFREY
RACING
SERVICES
Charlottetown

HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL
P.E.I. HORSEMEN
and best wishes
for a successful
'64 racing season...
CHARLOTTETOWN
HORSE and SULKY CLUB

BRUNSWICK

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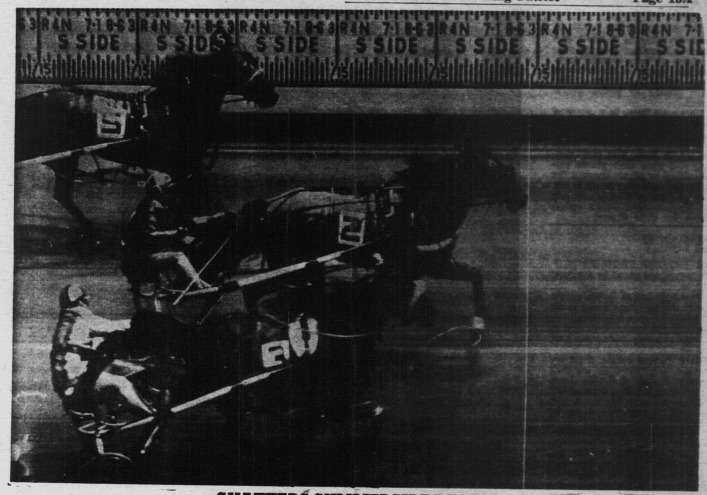
Mite, Hollybud, Holly Hal, Lady Lakeburn, Abbe Brewer, Head Boy, June Byrd, Miss Marion Hal, Mighty Again, Landy, Post Hanover, Walter Federal, Lorraine G. Henley, Moab, Betty Federal, His Honor's Pride, Chet Lynn Roya, Philip's Queen, Jean Smart, Security Scott, Carol Ann Volo, Teppy Gallon, Willie's Adios, Darn Volo, Sky Prince, Fastway, Velvet Step, Country Mile.

1 win—Victory Slott, Brilliant Frisio, Peter Federal, Spensive Spud, Jester Jane, Densie Ann, The Maritimer, Romolo Wil, Laura Comet, Am Castle, Trevor Lee, Edgewood Hedrick, Miramibi Jimmy, Marcus Hanover, Happy Tass, Winston's Wish, Will Mahlon, Belle Texas, Melvin's Son, W.W. Direct, Bob Lee Boy, Adios Guy, Congress Lady Hal, Ina Mac, Ima's Son, Free Agent, Cathy Girl, Easy Riser.

"2:10" DRIVERS
Rufin Barrieau (16)
Harvey Cormier (14)
Joe Goguen (9)
Guy Gaudet (7)
Bob Steeves, Clayton MacLeod (6)
Roy Barnett (4)
George Frizzell, Bud Campbell (3)
Roach MacGregor, Ed Haley, Art Burbine, Rod Goguen, Dave Pinkney, Cyril Smith Wilfred Shea, Jack Bernard (2)
Boyd Jonah, Lloyd Palmer, Blair Bernard, Roger Watkins, Millet Coughlan, Ned Lindon (1)

COTTAGE COVERING

A master thatcher needs perhaps two months and some 4,000,000 reeds or straws cut in five-foot lengths to cover an average-sized cottage.



SHATTERS SUMMERSIDE RECORD

Joe Hennessey lowers Summerside Raceway record to 2.05:3 with Doug Hill's Dominion Byrd during Lobster Carnival Week at Summerside. Joe copped Ed's Taxi Trophy for best percentage at Charlottetown Driving Park.

Greetings
TO ALL MARITIME HORSEMEN
1964 PLANS
We expect to announce our 1964 plans early in the season. The Maritime Horsemen will be assured that Sackville Downs will be the leader in the number of days of racing and amount of purses paid for feature events. Horsemen should plan early to attend the 1964 meets at Sackville Downs where Maritime racing history is made, and thus benefit from the high purses.
.... it is our sincere wish and hope that 1964 will be the finest year on record in the history of Harness Racing in the Maritimes.
GOOD LUCK 'n GOOD RACING
TO ONE AND ALL...
Sackville Downs
HARNESS RACING CENTRE OF THE MARITIMES
John T. Cruickshank, President
John F. (Jack) Cruickshank, General Manager and Race Secretary